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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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Argentina

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MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Proposal that the President Meet with
Jacobo Timerman

Jacobo Timerman, the Argentine newspaper editor and publisher who was recently released from house arrest and expelled from Argentina, will travel to New York on October 29 to accept the Hubert Humphrey Freedom Award from B'nai B'rith. Mr. Timerman has asked to meet with President Carter on October 30 or 31. We believe such a meeting should take place in light of President Carter's personal intervention with President Videla on behalf of Mr. Timerman.

The Timerman case has attracted widespread interest and sympathy in this country among private groups, Members of Congress, and the general public. His visit to Washington will be the focus of considerable public and press attention and will include meetings with Members of Congress. For many people in the U.S., Argentina, and abroad, his case symbolized the human rights situation in Argentina. A meeting with Mr. Timerman would provide the President an opportunity publicly to welcome Mr. Timerman's release and to express our Government's hope that it marks the beginning of new efforts by the Government of Argentina to restore respect for human rights and the rule of law. The meeting would also provide fresh public evidence of the Administration's continuing high-level commitment to the promotion of human rights as a central element of U.S. foreign policy.

The attached paper provides background information on Mr. Timerman's detention and on efforts to secure his release.

Peter Tarnoff
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

As stated.

Draft ex: HA/HR: PJL: [redacted]
ext: 21180

Clearances:
HA/HR: CBSalmon, Jr.
ARA/ECA: GWhitman (subs)
HA: PDerian (draft)

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argaret P. Grafeld, Director
X Release () Excise () Deny

Exemptions:
Classify as () In Full () Extended () Downgrade to ()
Declassify on Reason